

REMARKS

Upon entry of the present Preliminary Amendment-A the claims in the application remain claims 1-20 of which claims 1, 5 and 6 are independent.

Paragraph [078] of the specification is amended to change “FIG. 14” to --FIG. 13-- consistent with the drawings, while claim 12 is amended to delete reference number “(68)”.

Applicant respectfully submits that all of the above amendments are fully supported by the original application, including the original claims. Applicant also respectfully submits that the above amendments do not introduce any new matter into the application.

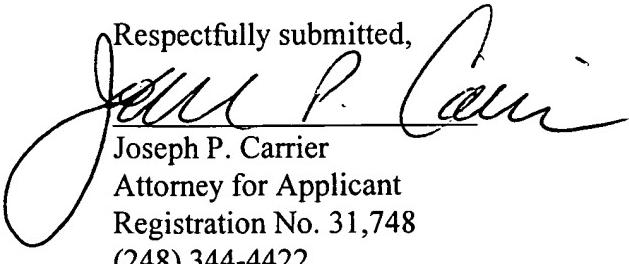
Additionally, please note that in the Preliminary Amendment dated 18 February 2005, the newly added claim 19 was incorrectly labeled as “(Currently amended)”, and should instead have been labeled as --(New)--. Above, claim 19 is now labeled as “(Previously presented)”.

Also, please note that the statement “Previously, the International Application PCT/JP2003/009737 was amended under Articles 19 and 34. English language translations of the amendments under Articles 19 and 34 are being filed concurrently herewith, including comments made in association with such amendments.” appearing on page 10 of the Preliminary Amendment dated 18 February was inadvertently included in the Preliminary Amendment and should be disregarded. The present application is the US National Phase of International Application PCT/JP03/10297, not of International Application PCT/JP2003/009737.

Favorable consideration is respectfully requested.

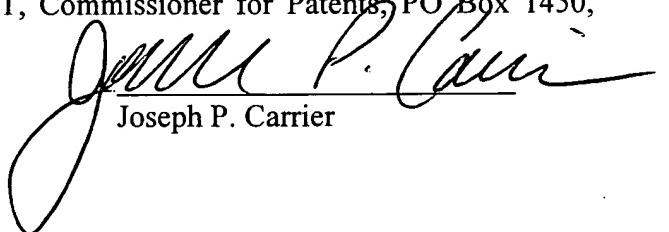
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CERTIFICATE OF MAILING

I hereby certify that this correspondence is being deposited with the US Postal Service as First Class Mail in an envelope addressed to Mail Stop PCT, Commissioner for Patents, PO Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450, on 22 April 2005.


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